



THE SCIENCE OF READY<sup>SM</sup>

# SOUTH 4 GROUP FIRE

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Port Neches, TX

Preliminary Data Summary

Community

December 5, 2019

Project #112312

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## 1.0 Introduction

On November 27, 2019 at approximately 04:00 Central Standard Time (CST), TPC Group requested that CTEH® provide air monitoring and analytical air sampling support in response to a tank fire at the TPC Group facility located in Port Neches, Texas. CTEH® arrived on-site on November 27, 2019 at 08:00 CST and began real-time air monitoring and analytical air sampling operations. This report summarizes real-time air monitoring data collected from December 4, 2019 06:00 CST to December 5, 2019 06:00 CST within the community.

## 2.0 Air Monitoring and Sampling Methods

CTEH® developed and implemented an Air Sampling Analysis Plan (SAP) to document and quantify the potential release of fugitive emissions from the incident at ground level. The SAP has been approved by local, state, and federal representatives of the on-site Unified Command (UC). In accordance with the SAP, sustained 1,3-butadiene detections of 0.5 ppm or greater and volatile organic compound (VOC) detections of 5.0 ppm or greater in the community are to be communicated to the Federal On-Scene Coordinator.

Real-time air monitoring was conducted for 1,3-butadiene, benzene, carbon monoxide (CO), fine-sized particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and atmospheric flammability measured as the percentage of the lower explosive limit (%LEL). As per the request of UC, styrene was added as an analyte for real-time air monitoring as of 21:00 CST on December 5, 2019. Real-time air monitoring was conducting using handheld instruments including Drager X-PID 8500, MultiRAEs, UltraRAEs, Gastec GV-100 handheld piston pumps (with colorimetric tubes), TSI SidePak™ AM510 and AM520 Aerosol Monitors. All instrumentation was calibrated at least once per day or per manufacturer's recommendations. Target analytes were measured as listed in **Table 1** below. Roaming air monitoring was performed in community areas with handheld instruments. All handheld air monitoring was conducted in the breathing zone.

In addition, CTEH® also collected air samples for analysis of airborne VOCs, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and asbestos in the surrounding community at the time of this report. These samples are sent to a 3<sup>rd</sup>-party accredited laboratory for subsequent chemical analysis. Air sampling data will be summarized in a separate report.

## 3.0 Air Monitoring Results

**Attachment A** provides maps of the locations of handheld air monitoring and analytical air sampling in community residential areas. **Table 1** summarizes the results of community handheld air monitoring.

**Table 1: Community Handheld Real-Time Air Monitoring Results**

Analyte	Instrument	# of Readings	# of Detections	Range*
1,3-Butadiene	Drager X-PID 8500	329	77	0.5 – 7.250 ppm
	Gastec #174LL	7	7	0.15 – 5.00 ppm
	UltraRAE	1,263	273	0.01 – 12.09 ppm
Benzene	Drager X-PID 8500	127	0	< 0.02 ppm
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	MultiRAE	144	5	1 – 5 ppm
%LEL	MultiRAE	922	0	< 1%
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	MultiRAE	39	0	< 0.1 ppm
Particulate Matter (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	AM510	179	179	0.007 – 0.220 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
	AM520	61	61	0.007 – 0.066 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Styrene	Gastec #124L	31	0	< 0.5 ppm
VOCs†	MultiRAE	1,561	285	0.03 – 12.9 ppm

\*If no detection was observed, the instrument detection limit preceded by a "<" symbol is listed. These data have not undergone QA/QC and should be considered preliminary at this time. †Volatile organic compounds.

During this reporting period, 217 out of 1,599 readings of 1,3-butadiene were at or above the action level of 0.5 ppm at airborne concentrations ranging from 0.5 – 12.09 ppm. Additionally, 13 out of 1,561 readings of VOC were at or above the notification level of 5.0 ppm at airborne concentrations ranging from 5.0 – 12.9 ppm. These detections were reported in accordance to the protocol outlined in the UC approved SAP. All other readings for VOC and 1,3-butadiene reported during this air monitoring period were below the respective UC-approved action levels of 5.0 ppm and 0.5 ppm, respectively. No detections of benzene, %LEL, or NO<sub>2</sub> were observed in the community during this reporting period. The average of the detections for all PM<sub>2.5</sub> readings collected during this reporting period was 0.025 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

## 4.0 Weather Conditions

**Attachment B** contains a wind rose depicting wind speed and direction for this reporting period. Data were acquired from the Nederland High School (C1035) meteorological station located on 2108 N 18th St approximately 4 miles west of the incident site.

# Attachment A

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## CTEH Community Air Monitoring Locations

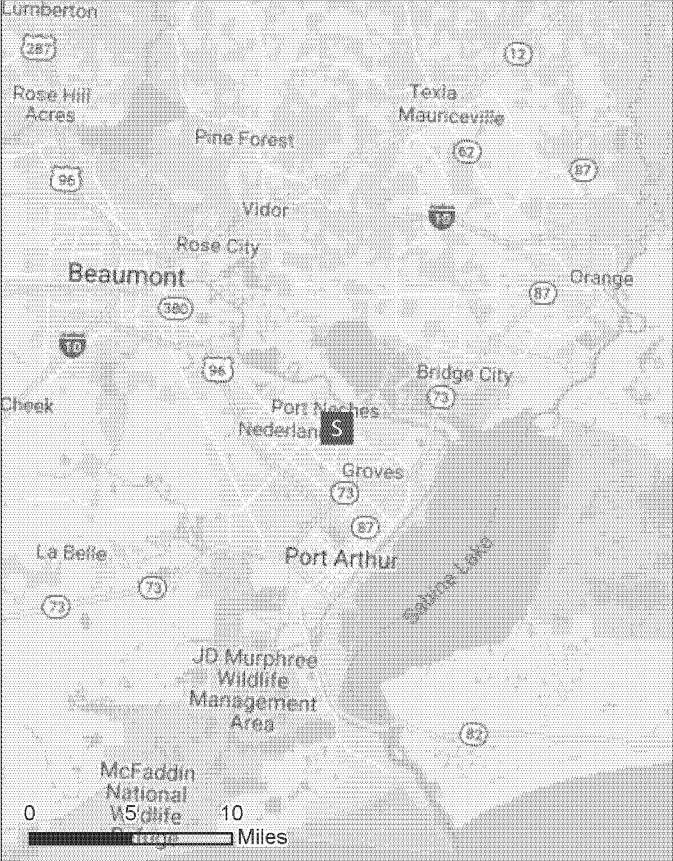
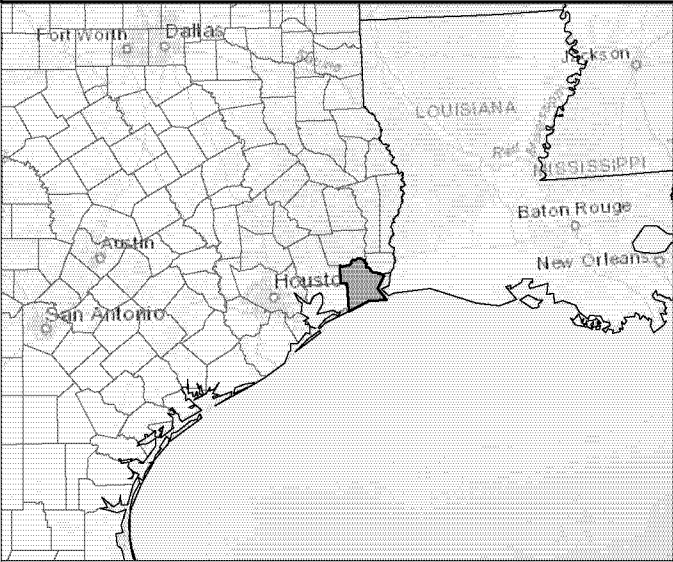




Site Location  
South 4 Group Fire | Port Neches, TX



Project: 112312  
Client: TPC Group  
City: Port Neches, TX  
County: Jefferson



S Site Location



Handheld Real-Time Community Monitoring Locations

South 4 Group Fire | Port Neches, TX | 12/4/2019 06:00 - 12/5/2019 06:00 CST



Project:112312  
Client: TPC  
City: Port Neches, TX  
County: Jefferson







# Handheld Real-Time Community Monitoring Locations (Benzene)

South 4 Group Fire | Port Neches, TX | 12/4/2019 06:00 - 12/5/2019 06:00 CST



Project:112312  
Client: TPC  
City: Port Neches, TX  
County: Jefferson















# Handheld Real-Time Community Monitoring Locations (%LEL)

South 4 Group Fire | Port Neches, TX | 12/4/2019 06:00 - 12/5/2019 06:00 CST



Project:112312  
Client: TPC  
City: Port Neches, TX  
County: Jefferson



COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 15N DATUM: North American 1983

LAST UPDATED: 12/5/2019 9:12:26 AM



# Handheld Real-Time Community Monitoring Locations (NO2)

South 4 Group Fire | Port Neches, TX | 12/4/2019 06:00 - 12/5/2019 06:00 CST



Project:112312  
Client: TPC  
City: Port Neches, TX  
County: Jefferson



COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 15N DATUM: North American 1983

LAST UPDATED: 12/5/2019 10:17:36 AM







0 0.5 1 Miles

- S** Site Location
- < 0.1 ppm
- Detection concentration**
- 0.1 - 0.49 ppm
- 0.491 - 12.9 ppm





# Attachment B

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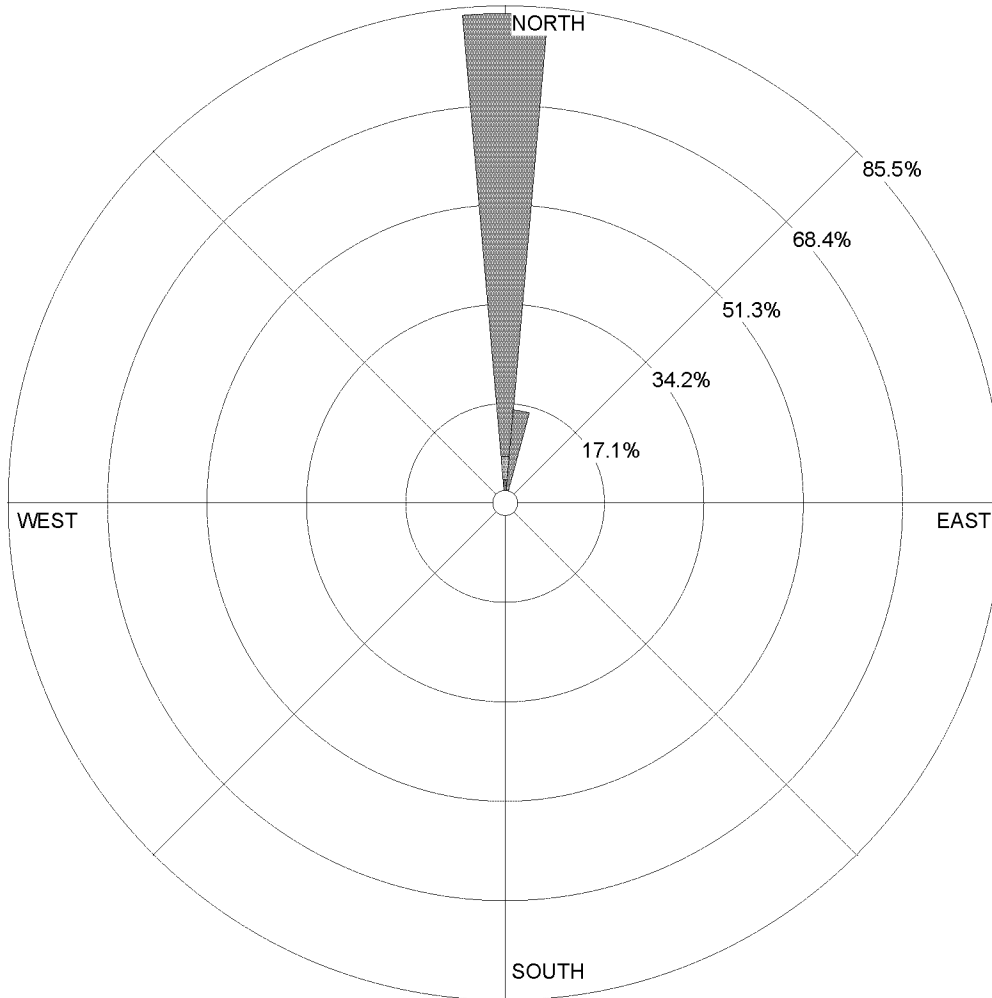
## Meteorological Conditions

WIND ROSE PLOT:

**South 4 Group Fire**  
Dec 4, 2019 06:00 to Dec 5, 2019 06:00

DISPLAY:

**Wind Speed Direction**  
(blowing from center point)



COMMENTS:

COMPANY NAME:

**CTEH, LLC**

MODELER:

**Chance Gilliam**

CALM WINDS:

**0.00%**

TOTAL COUNT:

**25 hrs.**

AVG. WIND SPEED:

**175.20 Knots**

DATE:

**12/5/2019**

PROJECT NO.:

**112312**